

Frequently Used Academic Words

The first list is a selection of words from the sublists of the *Academic Word List in the Academic Corpus* (Coxhead, 2000). The main purpose of this list is to heighten awareness of the many less obvious terms that describe complex and abstract concepts across disciplines. The second list contains terms that are often used to describe five academic communication skills. The third list shows how terms and grammatical tactics are used to build academic sentences. All of these lists can and should be adapted and expanded to fit each classroom context. Additional words and information can be found at www.vuw.ac.nz/lals/research/awl/awlinfo.html.

Partial Academic Word List

access	consumer	final	minorities	required
achieve	context	financial	negative	research
acquisition	contract	focus	normal	resident
adequate	contrast	formula	obtained	resolution
administration	contribution	framework	obvious	resources
affect	convention	function	occupational	response
alternative	coordination	goals	occur	restricted
analysis	core	granted	option	retained
apparent	corporate	hence	outcomes	role
approach	corresponding	hypothesis	output	scheme
appropriate	create	identified	overall	section
approximated	credit	illustrated	parallel	security
area	criteria	immigration	parameters	select
aspects	cultural	impact	participation	sequence
assessment	cycle	implementation	partnership	series
assistance	data	implications	perceived	shift
assume	debate	implies	percent	significant
attitudes	deduction	imposed	phase	similar
attribute	definition	indicate	philosophy	site
authority	demonstrate	individual	physical	sought
available	derived	initial	policy	source
benefit	design	instance	positive	specific
categories	despite	institute	potential	specified
chapter	dimensions	integration	predicted	statistics
circumstances	distinction	interaction	previous	status
civil	distribution	internal	primary	strategies
code	document	interpretation	principal	stress
commission	domestic	investigation	principle	structure
commitment	dominant	investment	prior	subsequent
communication	economic	involved	procedure	sufficient
community	elements	issues	process	summary
compensation	emerged	items	professional	survey
complex	emphasis	journal	project	task
components	ensure	justification	promote	technical
concentration	environment	label	proportion	techniques
concept	equation	labor	published	technology
conclusion	error	layer	purchase	text
conduct	established	legal	range	theory
conference	estimate	legislation	reaction	traditional
consent	ethnic	link	regime	transfer
consequences	evaluation	location	region	undertaken
considerable	evidence	maintenance	registered	validity
consistent	excluded	major	regulations	variable
constant	export	maximum	relevant	volume
constraints	factors	mechanism	reliance	
construction	features	method	removed	

Frequently Used Terms and Tactics for Building Academic Sentences

To Describe Sequence	To Give an Example	To Soften a Statement	To Compare and Contrast	To Show Results or Conclude
first, second	for example	sometimes	whereas	this led to
at this time	for instance	many	nevertheless	hence
at this point	consider the time	few	however	brought
meanwhile	in this case	seldom	on the other	about by
finally	on this occasion	rarely	hand	in conclusion
concurrently	in this situation	can	on the	as we have
consequently	to demonstrate	might	contrary	shown
previously	to illustrate	most	by comparison	therefore
simultaneously	in fact	occasionally	ironically	accordingly
subsequently	indeed	apparently	yet	thus
concurrently	. . . in practice	theoretically	compared to	as a result
while	such as	probably	although	consequently
following this		likely	even though	ultimately
			in contrast	in view of this
			just as so	due to